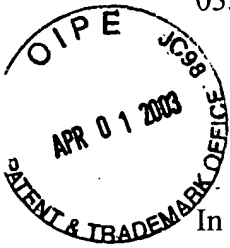


03500.011664.1

PATENT APPLICATION



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
KEIICHI IWAMURA) Examiner: D. Felten
Application No.: 09/335,031) Group Art Unit: 3624
Filed: June 16, 1999)
For: ACCOUNTING APPARATUS,) April 1, 2003
INFORMATION RECEIVING)
APPARATUS AND)
COMMUNICATION SYSTEM :

RECEIVED
APR 08 2003
GROUP 3600

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION
AND
SECOND REQUEST FOR ISSUANCE OF NEW OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2002, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of this application for the reasons discussed below.

Applicant's representative submitted a Request for Issuance of New Office Action on October 24, 2002. In that Request, Applicant's representative pointed out that the October 1, 2002 Office Action failed to consider the claim amendments and arguments presented in the Amendment filed February 21, 2002, entry of which was expressly requested upon filing a CPA on July 19, 2002. Instead, the October 1, 2002 Office Action expressly referred to and addressed the claims and arguments presented in an earlier Amendment filed in July 2001. Although the Examiner indicated by telephone in December 2002 that no further response to the

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October 1, 2002 Office Action should be necessary, in view of the Request for Issuance of New Office Action, Applicant wishes to ensure that this application is not inadvertently abandoned. Therefore, since today is the statutory deadline for responding to the October 1, 2002 Office Action and since no new Office Action has yet been received, out of an abundance of caution Applicant is filing this Request for Reconsideration.

Applicant hereby incorporates by reference and repeats the arguments presented in the Amendment filed February 21, 2002. In particular, Applicant submits that the cited art does not disclose or suggest at least the claim features pointed out in the Remarks accompanying that Amendment. For example, the cited art does not disclose or suggest at least the feature wherein the processing step is not performed if the permission signal is not output in the judging step, as recited in Claim 24.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance.

Applicant submits that the next Office Action should not be made final since the previous Office Action did not address the claims as presently pending in the application and did not address the arguments submitted in the February 21, 2002 Amendment.

Petition for Extension of Time

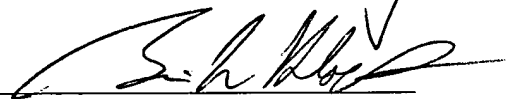
Applicant submits that no extension of time should be required since the prior Office Action was defective and should be reissued. Applicant further submits that it is inequitable to charge Applicant an extension fee since a Request for Issuance of New Office Action was promptly and timely filed less than one month after receiving the defective Office Action, but a new Office Action has not been issued (nor has the Request been denied) in the subsequent five months. Nevertheless, if the PTO deems that an extension of time is required, Applicant

petitions to extend the time for response to the Office Action dated October 1, 2002 for three months from January 1, 2003, to April 1, 2003, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the required \$930.00 extension fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the outstanding rejections, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Attorney for Applicant
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Registration No. 36,570

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